

**PUBLIC INSTRUCTION****ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY**

Newsletter - Issue XXXIV, May 2015

OEA/OSA Updates...**Note from the Assessment Director**

As I write this, we have finished our second week of the Badger Exam 3-8 and our fourth week of the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) with ACT Aspire and PALS launching soon. Because of the hard work of district assessment coordinators (DAC), teachers and other school staff, along with coordinated efforts of the Office of Student Assessment (OSA) team, these first weeks of implementation have gone well. As of April 29, for the Badger Exam 3-8, 88% of schools have started testing with 64% of the total statewide tests complete. For DLM, 25% of testlets have been completed. Most schools have also loaded their students for the Aspire 9-10 testing and are ready to go. Thank you all once again for making this all happen. We believe the student data you receive in return will assist in providing a picture of your school and district's progress on the new standards which were adopted and implemented in the past five years.

Troy Couillard

Director, Office of Student Assessment

Badger Exam Update

The first statewide online testing for grades 3-8 has been launched in Wisconsin this spring with the Badger Exam. The Badger Exam will continue to be administered through the test window which goes until May 29. The Badger Exam is Wisconsin's customized version of the Smarter Balanced Assessment.

DACs will be notified in late May or early June regarding timelines for the Badger Exam results and aggregate reports. An online reporting system called the 'Test Operations Management System (TOMS) Reporting Suite' will provide permissioned users with interactive and cumulative online reports for mathematics and English language arts (ELA) at state, district, school, and student level.

Reports in the TOMS Reporting Suite will incorporate text and graphic presentation to assist in the understanding of the information presented. The system will allow users to generate customized reports using a range of data filters

(Continued on page 2)

OEA/OSA Calendar...**Important Dates**

2015	
March 30 – May 22	DLM - ELA and Mathematics Grades 3-11 Assessment Window
April 13 – May 29	Badger Exam ELA and Mathematics Grades 3-8 Assessment Window
April 27 – May 22	ACT Aspire Grades 9-10 Assessment Window
April 27 – May 22	PALS 4K-2 Assessment Window
May 20	ACCESS for ELLs Data Correction Window closes
May 29	ACT Aspire - Deadline for Aspire to receive all paper based tests
June 5	PALS - Spring Score Entry Window Closes for 4K, Kindergarten and 1st and 2nd Grade
June 25	ACT - School and district reports received
July 2	ACT Aspire - Reports released through portal
September 14 - October 9	PALS 1-2 Assessment Window
October 12 - October 30	ACT Aspire – Grade 9 Assessment Window
October TBD	DLM – Grade 9 Assessment Window
October 12 - November 6	PALS 4K-K Assessment Window
October 26 - November 10	WKCE/WAA-SwD Assessment Window
December 7	ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Test Window Opens
2016	
January 11 - February 19	PALS 4K-2 (optional) Assessment Window
January 25 - March 11	NAEP Assessment Window
February 5	ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Test Window Closes
March 1	ACT Plus Writing Grade 11 Assessment
March 1-15	ACT Plus Writing Grade 11 Assessment Window for Students Testing with Accommodations
March 2	ACT WorkKeys Grade 11 Assessment
March 2-16	ACT WorkKeys Grade 11 Assessment Window for Students Testing with Accommodations
March 15	ACT Plus Writing Grade 11 Makeup Day
March 16	ACT WorkKeys Grade 11 Makeup Day
March TBD – May TBD	Badger Exam 3-8 ELA and Mathematics Assessment Window
March TBD – May TBD	DLM - ELA and Mathematics Grades 3-11 Assessment Window
April 25 – May 20	PALS 4K-2 Assessment Window
May 2 to May 27	ACT Aspire Grades 9-10 Assessment Window

Testing dates are tentative and may be subject to change for the 2015-16 school year.



PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

Newsletter - Issue XXXIV, May 2015

Badger Exam Update (Continued from page 1)



(Race/Ethnicity, Disability Status, Gender, English Language Learner Status, Migrant Status, Economic Status, and Full Academic Year Status). Customized reports will be

available onscreen or downloaded as CSV files or PDFs. When available, Individual Profile Reports (IPR) can be downloaded as PDF files and printed for distribution to parents or guardians.

Thanks to all the schools and districts for your valuable work around administering the Badger Exam.

Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE) Update



The WKCE will be administered next fall for Science and Social Studies to students in grades 4, 8, and 10. The WKCE will be administered during October 26 – November 10, 2015.

ACT High School Assessments Update

ACT - Students will receive a printed ACT Student Report approximately 3 to 8 weeks after testing, mailed to their home address. Most, if not all, reports have been delivered. Students with ACT-Approved accommodations received their reports a little later than those students who took the standard time test. These are typically processed by ACT after the accommodations windows close. During the same time frame, schools received a shipment of the ACT High School Check List Report, the ACT High School Report, and ACT Student Score Labels for placement on permanent records. Schools will receive two printed letters for each student tested using state-allowed accommodations by June 25.

The ACT Profile Report-High School, a paper document, and the ACT Profile Report-District CD that aggregate data for the high school and district, including students tested using state-allowed accommodations, is scheduled to arrive by June 25. The standard ACT reports are sent to the attention of the Director of Counseling. The ACT Profile Reports and ACT

State-Allowed Score Notification Letters (if applicable) are printed and sent via FedEx to the attention of the principal. Data CDs are sent to the districts via FedEx and will be addressed to the DAC.

ACT WorkKeys - The ACT WorkKeys Memo to Examinee and ACT WorkKeys Summary for Examinees were mailed to the high school for distribution to students. If your school has not received WorkKeys reports, please contact ACT directly. Schools will also receive the ACT WorkKeys Examinee Roster report in paper format. The state will receive an electronic data file by the first week of June of all student testing data. There are no electronic school or district WorkKeys reports available



directly from ACT. Department of Public Instruction (DPI) will also receive one PDF per school containing all of the earned National Career Readiness Certificates (NCRC) certificates by May 8 and will distribute these electronically to schools who can then print them for distribution.

Although ACT recommends delivering both the ACT WorkKeys Summary and ACT WorkKeys Memo to Examinee to the student, DPI suggests sending the ACT WorkKeys Memo to Examinee home to the student and retaining and filing the ACT WorkKeys Summary at the school. If a student specifically requests to have both copies, the school can make a copy of the ACT WorkKeys Summary for the individual student. This is a recommendation and not a requirement. Schools should distribute the reports in whatever way they typically share sensitive student data with parents and students.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Update

The DLM test administration window will close May 22. DACs will be sent a survey from the department toward the end of the testing window asking for information regarding students who were not tested with the DLM assessment. DACs should use the form to indicate reasons for not testing such as significant medical emergency, parent opt-out, etc.

DACs should use the Reports Function within Educator Portal to monitor the completion of Test Administration within your district. Each student should have completed 5-7 testlets per content area. Testing outside of the window is not permitted.

(Continued on page 3)



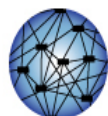
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

Newsletter - Issue XXXIV, May 2015

DLM Update (Continued from page 2)

DLM will conduct their formal standard setting process in June. This is one of the final steps in the test development



DYNAMIC
LEARNING MAPS

process and will establish cut scores for each of the performance levels. Wisconsin educators will be participating in this multi-

state event. Once DLM has established cut scores, they will be able to generate student, school, and district level reports. We estimate that these will be available in July for the Spring 2015 administration. In subsequent years, the reporting timeline will be accelerated.

Please contact Kristen Burton for additional information regarding the DLM assessment at 608-267-3164.

ACCESS for ELLs® Update

The 2014-15 ACCESS for ELLs® Score Reports were shipped by April 17. Districts need to notify MetriTech of any paper report errors that may affect scoring (e.g., the student's grade, school, or student identification) prior to May 20, the close of the correction window.



Downloadable ACCESS

for ELLs® student data files as Microsoft Excel or TAB delimited format are available via a secure website. Contact MetriTech Customer Service at 800-747-4868 or email wida@metritech.com to request access. Districts can also request access to free translated student's Parent/Guardian report in any of the available languages from MetriTech by contacting their customer service. Sample translated letters to accompany score reports can be found at WIDA's ACCESS for ELLs® page available at <https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS/>.



English Language Proficiency (ELP) Code Reclassification Update

Districts may use this year's ACCESS for ELLs® results for reclassification from ELL to formerly ELL status. Refer to the reclassification guidance document available at <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/oea/pdf/Guidance%20for%20ELL%20Reclassification.pdf>. Individual reclassification decisions should be made in context of the college- and career- ready standards, and students should receive appropriate transitional support.

ACCESS for ELLs 2.0

In December, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Online will replace the current paper-based test for the 2015-2016 school year. WIDA is in the process of rolling out training materials to help with this transition. Dates for upcoming trainings and links to past trainings is available on the preparation resource page at <https://www.wida.us/assessment/access20-prep.aspx>.

The ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 assessments will be administered December 7, 2015 to February 5, 2016. ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 will be an online assessment for grades 1-12. The Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLs and the Alternate ACCESS will continue to be administered as a paper/pencil assessment.



ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 will require headsets (headphone and microphone combination, not just headphones). A list of headsets that districts have found to work effectively with this assessment is

available on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 technology page at <https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS%202.0/documents/Headset-specifications.pdf>.

PALS Update

The spring administration window for PALS is now open. The window runs from April 27-May 22, 2015 with the score entry deadline set for June 5, 2015. Teachers will need to choose two weeks within the window to administer the screener to their students. The spring administration is required for all 4 year old kindergarten through 2nd grade students; however 2nd grade students who have achieved the high benchmark designation in the fall may be opted-out of the spring

(Continued on page 4)



PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

Newsletter - Issue XXXIV, May 2015

PALS Update (Continued from page 3)

screening. Information is available at <http://www.palswisconsin.info/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/wi-policy-high-benchmark.pdf>.



For the 2015-16 school year, PALS will continue to be required for all 4K through 2nd grade students. DACs should have

recently received the order form to request materials (Form A will be used during 2015-16) for the new school year. Please have these order forms completed and sent back to the Department as soon as possible. Districts will also have the option to administer PALS español to 5K, 1st and 2nd grade students who are primarily receiving literacy instruction in Spanish. More information on PALS español is available at <http://www.palswisconsin.info/assessments/pals-espanol-for-k-and-1-3/>.

Please note that PALS materials for the 2015-16 school year will not be sent until sometime in August. Also, assessment coordinators should either collect the Form B kits from teachers or remind teachers to store the Form B kits, as it is anticipated that these kits will be used again in the 2016-17 school year.

PALS online professional development for 4K through 2nd grade teachers remains available at <http://pd.casenex.com/>. Teachers and administrators who would like a refresher course can get a head start on the PALS tutorials this spring before leaving school for summer vacation. A current school email address will allow access to courses available to Wisconsin teachers.

The PALS Wisconsin Resource Center, available at <http://www.palswisconsin.info>, serves as the portal for information on required training, policy issues, and other information relevant to the administration of the PALS screener. Please utilize the portal as your first stop if you have any questions about PALS. If you need additional assistance or if you need to request Braille or Deaf/Hard of Hearing PALS materials, contact Duane Dorn at DPI at duane.dorn@dpi.wi.gov or 608-267-1069. For questions about the online training and the online score entry and reporting system, district assessment coordinators may contact PALS at 888-728-7257, while teachers should contact PALS at support@palshelp.com.

WISEdash Update



New data has been added in WISEdash Public available at <http://wisedash.dpi.wi.gov/>:

- 2014-15 certified enrollment
- 2013-14 certified ACT results
- 2013-14 certified Advanced Placement (AP) results
- 2013-14 current and certified attendance
- 2014-15 current and certified Wisconsin Student Assessment System (WSAS) results

Definitions for "certified" and "current" can be found in the glossary available at http://wise.dpi.wi.gov/wisedash_glossary.

Remember to Update Your District Assessment Coordinator (DAC) Information



In mid-May, DACs will receive an email regarding the annual update to DAC contact information. It is essential that each district complete and **return the DAC Update Form to OSA by June 12, 2015**, even if the designated DAC remains the same.

Every DAC is also required to complete the WKCE/WAA-SwD District Assessment Coordinator Confidentiality Agreement for the 2015-16 test administration prior to test materials arriving in the district. Be sure to submit the **DAC Confidentiality Form by October 2, 2015**. You can view and print these forms at <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forms>.

DACs To-Do List from this Issue:

- Complete DLM Survey
- Notify MetriTech of any Paper Report Errors Prior to May 20, 2015
- PALS Spring Administration Window Score Entry deadline is June 5, 2015
- 2015-16 PALS Order Forms need to be completed and sent back to DPI as soon as possible
- DAC Update Form Due June 12, 2015
- DAC WKCE/WAA-SwD Confidentiality Form due October 2, 2015



PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

Newsletter - Issue XXXIV, May 2015



"I heard there will be no 2014-15 school report cards. Is that true?"

As of this publication date, no. We still plan to issue both School and District Report Cards based on 2014-15 data. The state legislature has drafted legislation to "pause" accountability for this year. The legislation prohibits DPI from creating Accountability Report Cards and using

state assessment data in the Educator Effectiveness System for 2014-15 only, but it has not yet passed both chambers of the legislature. As such, we continue to plan for the 2014-15 release of report cards, which would likely be late Fall. If the pause bill becomes law, we will notify the field immediately.

Please note that if legislation requires a one-year pause for the Accountability Report Cards and the use of state assessment data in the Educator Effectiveness System, 2014-15 assessment results will still be publicly posted on WISEdash. Results from the Badger Exam, ACT, ACT Aspire, DLM, WKCE & WAA-SwD (science and social studies), and ACCESS for ELLs will all be reported in the WISEdash Public Portal. Additionally, assessment data from 2014-15 will be factored into future report card calculations, as many of the report card calculations rely on multiple years of data.

Finally, please note that regardless of any potential state pause in accountability, federal accountability currently remains in place, and Wisconsin's waiver (ESEA Flexibility) remains in effect. As such, Title I Annual Measurable Objectives and Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives will still be reported. Additionally, the next cohort of Focus, Priority, and Reward Schools will be identified using 2014-15 assessment data.

FAQ...

- Q. What should be done if a student moves out of state after the Badger Exam test window begins?**
The sending district must enter the appropriate non-participation code (No Longer Enrolled) in TOMS.
- Q. How do districts go about adding students that come in from out-of-state into the system for the Badger Exam?**
When a district WSLS/ISES coordinator enters the student into the system, that student will generate a Wisconsin Student number (WSN). The student may then be entered into TOMS.
- Q. How would you enter information into TOMS for the Badger Exam for students new to the country and how would they receive a WSN?**
The receiving districts should enter the student's information into WSLS/ISES. This will generate a WSN. The student may then be entered into TOMS. If the student is a first year in U.S. English language learner child or if their proficiency level is not adequate to be able to access the ELA test, then that child may be exempt from the ELA test for this first year only. In this situation, the DAC should use the following non-tested code in TOMS: Recently Arrived ELL.
- Q. How many questions are in the Badger Exam?**
There are 45-48 questions in the English Language Arts (ELA) assessment in each grade. There are 35-37 questions in section 1, and 3-6 questions in section 2 of the mathematics assessment, depending on the grade. Please see the Badger Exam ELA and mathematics blueprints available at <http://oea.dpi.wi.gov/assessment/Smarter/resources> for more information.
- Q. If a student does not do well on the Badger Exam, will they have the opportunity to retake the test?**
No, there is no opportunity to retake the test.
- Q. Is it acceptable to leave materials up on the walls of the classroom during testing that may aid students while taking the Badger Exam?**
No. Information displayed on walls, bulletin boards, chalkboards, or charts (e.g., wall charts that contain literary devices, maps, etc.) and that might be used by students to help answer questions, must be removed or covered.



PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

Newsletter - Issue XXXIV, May 2015

Building Assessment Literacy...

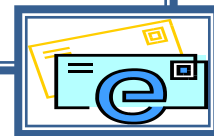
What Other Student Data is Available?

Even the most data savvy educators are struggling with identifying which data can be used for end-of-year data retreats and summer school improvement planning. Since school-level and district-level assessment results will not be available in WISEdash at the end of the school year, DPI is encouraging educators to use data available to them locally as much as possible. This includes state assessment reports available through vendor systems as well as other local data. Some other local data sources may include attendance rates, graduation rates, course completion, discipline data, DEWS rosters, or benchmark data such as MAP, STAR, or AIMS Web.

Assessments are not the only source of data.

- ✓ All information that educators have about their students is data.
- ✓ All forms of data should be brought to the table.

We hope you find this newsletter and its contents beneficial. As the Offices of Educational Accountability (OEA) and Student Assessment (OSA) work to improve and refine this communication tool, we appreciate feedback and/or suggestions on the layout and content. Please contact OEA at oeaemail@dpi.wi.gov and OSA at osamail@dpi.wi.gov.



Contact Information...

Office of Educational Accountability (OEA)

Laura Pinsonneault, Director
laura.pinsonneault@dpi.wi.gov

Sam Bohrod, Accountability Policy
samuel.bohrod@dpi.wi.gov

Jason Engle, Data/Statistics
Par.Engle@dpi.wi.gov

Kevin Ingram, WISExplore Consultant
kevin.ingram@dpi.wi.gov

Sarah Kolbe, Data/Statistics
sarah.kolbe@dpi.wi.gov

Justin Meyer, Data/Statistics
justin.meyer@dpi.wi.gov

Alison O'Hara, Data/Statistics
alison.o'hara@dpi.wi.gov

Joann Wong, WISExplore Consultant
joann.wong@dpi.wi.gov

Amy Marsman, Communications
amy.marsman@dpi.wi.gov

Office of Student Assessment (OSA)

Troy Couillard, Director
troy.couillard@dpi.wi.gov

Phil Olsen, Assistant Director
philip.olsen@dpi.wi.gov

Kristen Burton, WAA-SwD/DLM
kristen.burton@dpi.wi.gov

Jayson Chung, Statistics/Data
jayson.chung@dpi.wi.gov

Phil Cranley, Statistics
philip.cranley@dpi.wi.gov

Duane Dorn, Standards Consultant
duane.dorn@dpi.wi.gov

Angela Dugas, NAEP
angela.dugas@dpi.wi.gov

Audrey Lesondak, ELL Consultant
audrey.lesondak@dpi.wi.gov

Melissa Passehl, Communications
melissa.passehl@dpi.wi.gov

Jesse Roberts, ASSETS
jesse.roberts@dpi.wi.gov

Peggy Roush, ACT
margaret.roush@dpi.wi.gov

Viji Somasundaram, WKCE/Badger
visalakshi.somasundaram@dpi.wi.gov

Jennifer Teasdale, WKCE/Badger/Website
jennifer.teasdale@dpi.wi.gov

Tony Evers, State Superintendent

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation, or disability.